

KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD NOTES

Volume 12, No. 3 Report of the June 2-3, 2004, Regular Meeting

STATE BOARD PRESENTS FIRST DR. SAMUEL ROBINSON AWARD

At its June meeting, the Kentucky Board of Education presented the first Dr. Samuel Robinson Award to two recipients, Senator Gerald A. Neal of Louisville and One Community, One Voice Achievement and Closing the Gap Community Committee of Fayette County.

The award was established by the Board to honor retiring Board member Samuel Robinson and to celebrate the Brown vs. Board of Education decision of 1954. It will be conferred annually on an individual or organization in Kentucky for demonstrating outstanding commitment, service and leadership in promoting opportunities to learn at high levels for all Kentucky students.

The selection committee noted in its selection letter that Senator Neal has a history of supporting quality education at all levels and that the Fayette County organization is an evolving entity that brings together individuals, groups and organizations to help children escape ignorance and illiteracy.

For more information on the Dr. Samuel Robinson Award, contact Mary Ann Miller at 502-564-3141 or via email at mmiller@kde.state.ky.us.

STATE BOARD ADVISES GOVERNOR FLETCHER ON USE OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS

The Kentucky Board of Education agreed to adopt Commissioner Wilhoit's recommendations on the distribution of an additional \$10 million in state funding for education. The recommendation is for the money to be earmarked for technology and preschool services, with flexibility for districts to use the money in other areas, if needed. The recommendation will be forwarded to Governor Fletcher to consider as he crafts a spending plan.

For more information on this recommendation, contact Robin Kinney at 502-564-1976 or via email at rkinney@kde.state.ky.us.

SNAPSHOT ASSESSMENTS, END-OF-COURSE ASSESSMENTS AND IN-STATE TEACHER SCORING DISCUSSED

Kentucky Department of Education staff shared with the Board the status of two initiatives that are designed to support classroom teachers in curriculum, instruction and assessment; these are snapshot assessments and end-of-course assessments. A third initiative, in-state teacher scoring, will impact turnaround time of test results and provide targeted professional development for teachers.

Snapshot assessment refers to any single assessment used formatively to determine interim student progress on course objectives so that instruction can be modified to improve student mastery of material and skills. As part of its effort to offer greater assistance to classroom teachers, Department staff is recommending pursuit of one or more of the following approaches for use of snapshot assessments through a technology-based delivery system: curriculum-linked snapshot assessments, unit-linked/district-driven snapshot assessments and district-driven snapshot assessments. The Board advised Department staff to move ahead with development selecting the approach(es) that will allow school districts the most flexibility of usage to meet individual needs.

In response to interest from local districts, the Department of Education is also pursuing the availability of end-of-course assessments as an instructional resource. Decisions about if and how to use end-of-course exams would be made at the local level. These would be made available as one component of an aligned instructional resource system, along with curriculum maps, units of study, snapshot assessments and other tools for teachers and administrators. The Board was advised that work will begin immediately on mathematics and English end-of-course assessments, with other content areas to be added later.

In-state teacher scoring is an initiative that would directly impact the CATS test. Advantages to in-state scoring include test scores being returned quicker to schools for instructional impact, scoring serving as an excellent professional development opportunity for educators and the dollars expended for scoring staying in Kentucky. The Board learned that three options are being investigated:

- Having teachers score the Kentucky Core Content Test (KCCT) at computers located in their homes or at school;
- Having teachers score the KCCT at a number of sites located around Kentucky; or,
- Having teachers score the KCCT in their schools or districts.

Each of the options has unique challenges as well as implementation issues and considerations. More discussion on this topic will occur in the coming months before any decision is made by the Board.

For more information on snapshot assessments and end-of-course assessments, contact Scott Trimble at 502-564-2256 or via email at sttrimble@kde.state.ky.us or Starr Lewis at

502-564-9850 or via email at slewis@kde.state.ky.us. For information on in-state teacher scoring, contact Scott Trimble as indicated above.

STATE BOARD CONSIDERING CRITERIA FOR ESTABLISHING A SECONDARY GED PROGRAM

The Kentucky Board of Education's Curriculum Committee discussed and examined possible criteria for implementation of Kentucky's secondary GED program. This discussion was the result of the Board's April action to fully implement the National Center for Education Statistics' (NCES) definition guidelines for dropout and create a state-approved secondary GED program. Additionally, the creation of this program will align the Board's policies with the provisions of House Bill 178, recently passed by the General Assembly.

An application must be made by the Kentucky Department of Education to the American Council on Education (ACE) for approval to implement a secondary GED program. That application must clearly define how Kentucky will meet ACE's guidelines for the program. Department staff have been collaborating with ACE in preparation for completing the application.

The Board's Curriculum Committee examined criteria used by other states in their secondary GED programs and from Jefferson County's pilot program. Based on feedback given by Committee members, Department staff will bring forward a regulation for review on this matter to the August meeting and will begin the application process with ACE.

For more information on the development of the secondary GED program, contact Linda Pittenger at 502-564-4772 or via email at lpitteng@kde.state.ky.us or Jennifer Carroll at 502-564-4772 or via email at jscarrol@kde.state.ky.us.

FINAL APPROVAL GIVEN TO 703 KAR 5:040, STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY PROGRAM, RELATING ACCOUNTABILITY TO A1 SCHOOLS AND A2-A6 PROGRAMS

At its June meeting, the Kentucky Board of Education gave final approval to 703 KAR 5:040, Statewide Assessment And Accountability Program, Relating Accountability To A1 Schools And A2-A6 Programs. This regulation indicates the assignment of accountability for CATS test results for students in A2-A6 programs. While the majority of schools are "A1" schools, schools under administrative control of a principal and eligible to establish a school-based decision making council, some alternative or special programs exist as follows:

An "A2" program means a district-operated, totally vocational-technical program, where the membership is counted in other schools. Because these programs simply serve students enrolled in A1 schools, there is no accountability concern about where these students are attributed for accountability purposes.

An "A3" program means a district-operated, totally special education program.

An "A4" program means a district-operated, totally preschool program (e.g., Headstart, Kentucky Education Reform Act (KERA) Preschool, or Parent and Child Education (PACE)). Because these programs do not contain grades at which state required assessments are administered, there is no accountability concern about where these students are attributed for accountability purposes.

An "A5" program means an alternative program that is a district-operated and district-controlled facility with no definable attendance boundaries that is designed to provide services to at-risk populations with unique needs. Its population composition and characteristics change frequently and are controlled by the local school district student assignment practices and policies (i.e., the local district personnel have input with regard to the identification of students receiving services provided by the A5 program as opposed to unconditionally accepting court ordered placements). Students enrolled in A5 programs typically include: (a) Actual dropouts returning to an alternate educational environment; (b) Potential or probable dropouts; (c) Drug abusers; (d) Physically abused students; (e) Discipline problem students; (f) Nontraditional students (e.g., students who have to work during the school day); or (g) Students needing treatment (e.g., emotional/psychological).

An "A6" program means a district-operated instructional program in a nondistrict-operated institution or school.

The major changes made to the regulation by the Board will:

- Continue to hold A1 schools and districts accountable for the students the A1 school places in A3, A5 or A6 programs;
- Attribute students placed in A3, A5 or A6 programs to district accountability when districts place students directly into alternative settings when clear documentation exists that such placement is warranted;
- Attribute students placed in A3, A5 or A6 programs by authorities not directly under the control of the public school system to state accountability if the students have not been enrolled in an A1 school or district for a full academic year;
- Permit, upon district request, the establishment of some A3, A5 or A6 programs as final programs of placement and for accountability purposes treat the programs as regular A1 schools; and,
- Aggregate scores of students placed in A3, A5 or A6 programs through adjudication, etc., into a state-level accountability calculation with a process in place to assure review of services to the students in a formal report to the Kentucky Board of Education.

For more information on 703 KAR 5:040, contact Scott Trimble at 502-564-2256 or via email at sttrimble@kde.state.ky.us.

STATE BOARD SETS MEETING DATES FOR 2004, 2005 AND 2006

As part of the June meeting, the Board approved the following meeting schedule:

KBE MEETING DATES 2004

<u>2004</u>	<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
August 11-12, 2004	Regular Meeting	Frankfort
September 7, 2004	Regular Meeting	Frankfort
October 6-7, 2004	Regular Meeting	Frankfort
November 3, 2004	Regular Meeting	Frankfort
December 8-9, 2004	Regular Meeting	Frankfort

KBE MEETING DATES 2005

<u>2005</u>	<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
January 5, 2005	Regular meeting	Frankfort
February 2-3, 2005	Regular meeting	Frankfort
April 6-7, 2005	Regular meeting	Frankfort
May 17-18, 2005	KBE retreat and preliminary budget discussion	*TBD
June 8-9, 2005	Regular meeting	Frankfort
August 3-4, 2005	Regular meeting and commissioner's evaluation	Frankfort
September 14, 2005	Regular meeting	Frankfort
October 5-6, 2005	Regular meeting	Frankfort
November 2, 2005	Regular meeting	Frankfort
December 7-8, 2005	Regular meeting	Frankfort

KBE MEETING DATES 2006

<u>2006</u>	<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
January 4, 2006	Regular meeting	Frankfort
February 1-2, 2006	Regular meeting	Frankfort
March 8, 2006	Regular meeting	Frankfort
April 5-6, 2006	Regular meeting	Frankfort
May 10-11, 2006	KBE retreat and strategic plan discussion	*TBD
June 7-8, 2006	Regular meeting	Frankfort
July 5, 2006	Regular meeting	Frankfort
August 2-3, 2006	Regular meeting and commissioner's evaluation	Frankfort
September 6, 2006	Regular meeting	Frankfort
October 4-5, 2006	Regular meeting	Frankfort

November 1, 2006
December 6-7, 2006

Regular meeting
Regular meeting

Frankfort
Frankfort

*TBD – To be determined

For more information on the meeting dates, contact Mary Ann Miller at 502-564-3141 or via email at mmiller@kde.state.ky.us or Susan Palmer at 502-564-3141 or via email at spalmer@kde.state.ky.us.

OTHER ITEMS ON WHICH THE BOARD TOOK ACTION IN JUNE INCLUDE:

- Certification for Abby's Child Enrichment Center, Inc.
- 2003-2004 Local District Tax Rates Levied for Clark and Leslie Counties, and Ludlow Independent
- District facility plans for Letcher County, Fort Thomas Independent, Hazard Independent and Williamstown Independent
- District facility plan amendments for Daviess and Todd Counties
- Request from the Jefferson County Board of Education to renew the existing waiver from 702 KAR 6:090, known as the "Competitive Food Rule"
- KETS FY05 Unmet Need for LEAs
- Appeal of nonresident student contract ruling: Breathitt County versus Jackson Independent
- Election of National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) officers
- Revision of the Kentucky Board of Education Policy Manual
- Establishment of nominating committee to select a proposed slate of Board officers (Hilma Prather, Chair; Janice Allen and David Webb)
- Appointment of Bonnie Lash Freeman and Dorie Combs to the Pre-K to 16 Council
- Attendance of David Webb, David Rhodes, Janna Vice and Bonnie Lash Freeman to the NASBE New Board Members Institute

ITEMS REVIEWED BY THE BOARD IN JUNE ON WHICH NO ACTION WAS TAKEN INCLUDE:

- KDE Employment Report
- Legislative Implementation Plan
- Hearing Officer's Report
- Request for Proposals for CATS
- Kentucky School for the Blind and Kentucky School for the Deaf Action Plan
- 704 KAR 7:140, World War II Veterans Diplomas
- Reading First Update
- American Diploma Project
- Refocusing Secondary Education
- Transportation issues
- 702 KAR 1:001, Implementation Guidelines, The Kentucky School Facilities Planning Manual

- 702 KAR 4:050, Building Sites; Inspection, Approval
- Medicaid administrative claiming
- Update on Persistently Dangerous Schools
- Update on Deficit and Watch List Districts
- Presentation by Clark County District on use of an inclusionary model

The actions described above were taken in open session of the Kentucky Board of Education at the June 2-3, 2004, regular meeting conducted in the State Board Room, Capital Plaza Tower, 1st Floor, Frankfort, Kentucky. This information is provided in summary form, and an official record of the meeting is available on tape in the permanent records of the Kentucky Board of Education, First Floor, Capital Plaza Tower, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. These records are open for inspection Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

For additional information about the Kentucky Board of Education meetings, agendas, minutes or special accommodations needed for attending meetings, contact Mary Ann Miller, Policy Coordinator at (502) 564-3141.

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